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REORGANIZATION PLAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

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Honorable Forrest H. Anderson Governor of Montana Capitol Building Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Governor Anderson:

We are herewith submitting, in accordance with your request, a reorganization plan for the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. We fully expect this Department to produce greater efficiency and effectiveness in the protection and utilization of Montana's natural resources.

Respectfully submitted

TASK FORCE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

Carry J. Wyses Chairman

Gareth Moon

Robert S Rayoffel

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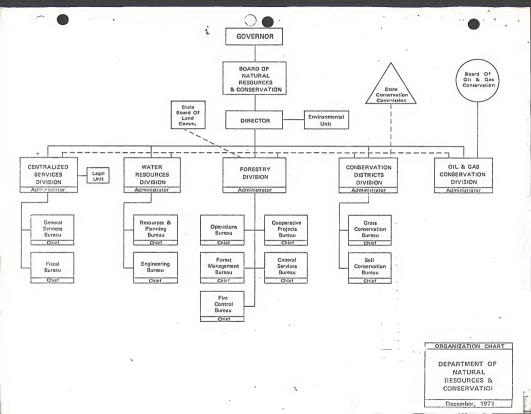
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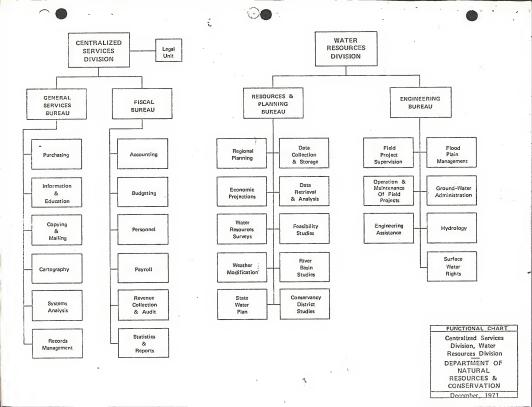
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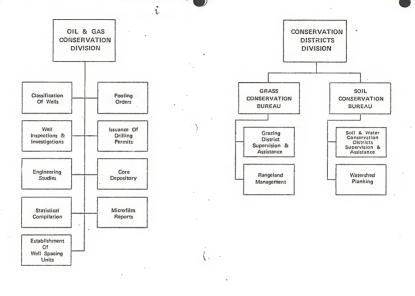
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FUNCTIONAL CHART

Oil & Gas

Conservation Division,

Conservation Districts

Division

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & CONSERVATION December, 1971

MAJOR PROGRAMS

Centralized Services Program

<u>Description</u>: The Centralized Services Program will perform general and fiscal administrative support functions for the department. The activities carried out will include purchasing, information and education, legal services, cartography, copying and mailing, systems analysis, accounting, budgeting, payroll, personnel, revenue collection and audit, statistics and reports, and records management. (Certain administrative personnel of other divisions of the Department will be transferred to this Division after the Department is activated.)

<u>Authority</u>: Title 82A, Chapters 1 and 15; Title 89, Chapters 1, 3, 29, and 34; Title 76, Chapter 1; Title 46, Chapter 23; Title 81, Chapters 14, 15, 16, and 22; Title 28, Chapters 1 and 4, R.C.M. 1947.

Division Responsible: Centralized Services Division

Water Resources Research and Planning Program

<u>Description</u>: The primary function of this program will be the preparation of a statewide multiple-use water resource plan, which will involve the following activities: data collection and storage, data retrieval and analysis, feasibility studies, water resource surveys, river basin studies, regional planning and economic projections. Weather modification and conservancy district studies will be additional functions of this program.

<u>Authority</u>: Title 89, Chapters 1, 3, and 29, R.C.M. 1947

Division Responsible: Water Resources Division

Water Resources Engineering Program

<u>Description</u>: The Water Resources Engineering Program will carry out the following functions: field project supervision, operation and maintenance of field projects, engineering assistance, ground water administration, surface water rights administration, hydrology (stream measurements) and implementation of the Flood Plain Management Act of 1971.

<u>Authority</u>: Title 89, Chapters 1 and 29, R.C.M. 1947 Division Responsible: Water Resources Division

State Forest Land Management Program

<u>Description</u>: The primary function of this program will be the proper management of state-owned school lands which involve forest resources. The following activities will be included: timber sales administration, reforestation, stand improvement, hazard reduction, portable sawmill licensing, development of special and recreational uses, scaling and rights-of-way.

<u>Authority</u>: Title 28, Chapters 1 and 4, R.C.M. 1947; Title 31, Chapters 14 and 15, R.C.M. 1947

Division Responsible: Forestry Division

Soil Conservation Program

Description: The goal of this program will be to foster development and proper management of land by providing supervision and assistance to soil and water conservation districts and their cooperators. The activities of the program will include assisting and advising soil and water conservation districts, coordinating the programs of several districts through advice and consultation, securing the cooperation and assistance of federal agencies and other state agencies, and disseminating public information throughout the state concerning the activities of the conservation districts.

Authority: Title 76, Chapter 1, R.C.M. 1947; Public Law 87-703; and Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, Chapter 104, 74th Congress Division Responsible: Conservation Districts Division

Watershed Planning

Description: The function of this program will be to accelerate water and related resource development under watershed projects in Montana, thereby improving overall economic growth through flood prevention, agricultural and municipal water storage, improvement water management, drainage, recreational and wildlife developments. The duties of the program will include processing project applications, planning approved projects, and utilizing available funds for construction of watershed projects.

Authority: Title 76, Chapter 1, R.C.M. 1947; Public Law 83-566

Division Responsible: Conscrvation Districts Division

Oil and Gas Conservation Program

<u>Description</u>: This program will be designed to protect and preserve the oil and gos resources of the state and to prevent wasteful practices in the recovery of such resources. The activities carried out will include: classification of wells, well inspections and investigations, establishment of well spacing units and pooling orders, issuance of drilling permits, care depository, engineering studies, and statistical compilation.

Authority: Title 60, Chapter 1, R.C.M. 1947

Division Responsible: Oil and Gas Conservation Division

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SPACE REQUIREMENTS

The various divisions of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation will remain housed at their present locations.

The principal offices for these divisions are as follows:

- --Water Resources and Conservation Districts Divisions: Mitchell Building, Helena
- --Oil and Gas Conservation Division: 325 Fuller Avenue,
- --Forestry Division: 2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula

 Certain administrative personnel will be transferred from the divisions named above to the Centralized Services Division which will be housed in the Mitchell Building in Helena.

POTENTIAL SAVINGS

Centralization of such functions as payroll, accounting, personnel records, purchasing, and records management will necessarily result in savings through personnel specialization and standardization of procedures. While it may be difficult or impossible to identify such savings in terms of dollars and cents, there can be no doubt that savings will occur as a result of inherent administrative efficiencies and reduction of man-hours expendec.

In addition to major savings in administrative expenses, it is anticipated that some savings may result in two other areas. Consolida tion of some local field offices of the agencies included in the Department would result in a reduction of rental costs, and the sharing of equipment and facilities is also expected to represent a savings.

PROPOSED RULES COVERNING THE INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

(Note: These rules are proposed as a part of the Reorganization
Plan for the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. It
is planned that these rules will be formally adopted by the Director
of the Department and concurred in by the Board of Natural Resources
and Conservation at its first meeting after activation of the
Department.)

RULES GOVERNING THE INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

GENERAL

- The purpose of these rules is to delineate, demarcate, and describe the respective responsibilities of the Board and the Director in order to promote and insure efficient operation of the Department and to provide and insure that responsibility within the Department is clearly fixed and definitely ascertainable.
- These rules are adopted by the Director pursuant to authority under Section 82A-107(1)(f), R.C.M. 1947, and have been concurred in by the Board as required under section 82A-1510, R.C.M. 1947.
- These rules may be amended at any time by the Director, subject to the concurrence of the Board. Any change in these rules shall be effective only by specific written amendments thereto.
- 4. These rules sweersede any rules or policies previously adopted or recognized by the Montana Water Resources Board, the Montana State Board of Forestry, the State Forester, the State Conservation Commission, or the Montana Grass Conservation Commission, which conflict with the rules contained herein.
- The Director shall provide copies of these rules to any interested person and may charge a reasonable fee for their cost.

Rule 1. DEFINITIONS

As used in these rules:

A. "Board" means the Board of Natural Resources and Conservation, provided for in section 82A-1509, R.C.M. 1947;

- B. "Department" means the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, created in section 82A-1501, R.C.M. 1947;
- C. "Director" means the Director of Natural Resources and Conservation, a position provided for in section 82A-1510, R.C.M. 1947.

Rule 2. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD

The following powers and duties of the Department, except those of the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation, must be concurred in by the Board (citations are to statutory authority of the Department to perform the specific function):

- A. The adoption of all rules and regulations which affect the public;
 - The granting, issuance, denial, revocation, renewal, or suspension of all licenses, permits, and certificates:
- C. The acquisition is appropriation, purchase, exchange, condemnation, lease, or otherwise, of water rights or any interest in real property;
- D. The sale, lease, or other disposition of interests in real property or of water rights;
- E. The construction of water conservation projects and irrigation works (89-105 and 89-106);
- F. The entering into of all contracts or agreements, and the provisions of same;
- G. The issuance of water conservation revenue bonds and the maturity dates, terms, conditions, and interest rates of sa 2 (89-109);

- H. The execution of a declaration of intention to store, divert, or control water in the name of the state (89-121);
- I. Securing water conservation revenue bonds by trust indentures, and the provisions of same (89-111);
- J. The adoption of a state water plan (89-132.1);
- K. The determination that the formation of a conservancy district is feasible and consistent with the state water plan (89-3408);
- L. The approval of applications for assistance under Public Law 566;
- M. The approval of plans for projects under Public Law 87-703:
- N. The creation, addition, combination, termination, or division of soil and water conservation districts (76-105, 76-114, and 76-117);
- O. The classification of forest land areas (28-105):
- P. The creation of organized forest fire protection districts (28-105);
- Q. The adoption of a fire protection plan, and the portion of the costs under such plan to be borne by the state and by the landowners (28-711);
- R. The creation or a change in boundaries of a cooperative grazing district (46-2309, 46-2311);
- The prescription of articles of incorporation of a cooperative grazing district (46-2310);
- T. The final report of dissolution proceedings of a cooperative grazing district (46-2325);

- U. The imposition of fccs against each grazing district (46-2331);
- V. Determinations or orders resulting from hearings.

Rule 3. POWERS AND DUTIES OF DIRECTOR

- A. The Board delegates to the Director the responsibility for
 the performance of those powers and duties set forth for
 department heads under section 82A-107 of the Executive
 Reorganization Act, R.C.M. 1947, subject to the concurrence of the Board of those items enumerated under Rule 2.
 In addition, the Director sball:
 - Conduct and hold all hearings, except hearings
 of the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation; the
 Director may adopt rules of procedure relating to
 such hearings, consistent with law and 'he
 Administrative Procedures Act, subject to the concurrence of the Board; any determinations or orders
 to be made from such hearings must be made by the
 Board in accordance with Rule 2 V;
 - 2. Accept, account for, and disburse moneys;
 - 3. Purchase equipment and supplies for the Department.
- B. The Director may create advisory councils in recordance with section 82A-110, R.C.M. 1947.
- C. The Director is hereby designated as the secretar of the Board, and he shall see that proper minutes are kept of all Board meetings.

- D. The Director may make recommendations to the Board on any matter which requires Board concurrence under Rule 2 of these rules, and he may, in his discretion, bring any matter not requiring Board concurrence to the Board for its discussion, recommendation, or concurrence.
- E. The Board hereby approves and concurs in any action taken by the Director pursuant to the powers and duties delegated to him under this Rule.